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## **Sen. Stamas' legislation to expand 55th circuit on the way to governor**

**LANSING** – Legislation to increase judgeships in Clare and Gladwin counties has passed both the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives, said state Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland.

“I am relieved to see my legislation approved by both chambers,” Stamas said. “In the past few years the caseload of the 55th Circuit Court has significantly increased. We need this bill to become law so that the Michigan residents served by the 55th Circuit Court have the right to a fair and speedy trial as promised in the Constitution.”

Currently, the 55th Circuit Court has only one judge.

Previously the Senate passed HB 5480 authorizing the creation of an additional judgeship for the 55th Circuit Court.

Similar to HB 5480, the Stamas legislation would add an additional circuit court judge in the 55th Circuit, as recommended by the independent, nonpartisan Michigan Supreme Court's State Court Administrative Office.

The governor has 14 days to sign Senate Bill 955 into law once it is placed on her desk.

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